REMARKS

This application has been amended so as to place it in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

The Official Action objects to claims 6, 7, 14, and 19 based on identified informalities. Applicants have amended the identified claims as necessary in order to eliminate the bases for this objection, the reconsideration and withdrawal of which are therefore respectfully requested.

The Cfficial Action rejects claims 18 and 19 under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Official also Action rejects claims 18 and 19 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by YOSHIDA. Applicants have cancelled both claims, and reconsideration and withdrawal of both rejections are therefore respectfully requested.

In light of the amendments provided above and the indication of allowability as to claims 1-17, applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early indication of the same is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions or requires further clarification of any of the above points, the Examiner may contact the undersigned attorney so that this application may continue to be expeditiously advanced.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

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overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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EJ/lk